

*To The Royal College of Physicians
Edinburgh from Dr Cormack.*

INQUEST

ON

MISS SOPHIA DALLETT,

HELD AT PUTNEY ON THE 8TH AND 14TH JULY, 1847,

PRINTED FROM THE NOTES OF ONE OF THE JURY.

WITH

AN APPENDIX.

EDITED BY

JOHN ROSE CORMACK, M.D., EDIN., F.R.S.E.,

FELLOW OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH;

LATE PHYSICIAN TO THE ROYAL INFIRMARY OF EDINBURGH;

PHYSICIAN TO THE COLLEGE FOR CIVIL ENGINEERS,

PUTNEY, &c. &c.

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P R E F A C E.

CIRCUMSTANCES have occasioned many applications to me for an authentic report of the proceedings at the Inquest on the deceased Miss Sophia Dallett. I had intended to draw up an account of the case, suitable for publication in a Medical Journal, adding a few short pathological commentaries ; but in consideration of the vulgar personalities, propagated both before and after the Inquest, and the careless misreports which have been published in different periodicals, circulars, and handbills, I have judged it better to print the evidence taken by the Coroner, and allow each individual to digest it for himself. I hope that this will be accepted by the reader as my apology, for subjecting him to the perusal of several cumbrous repetitions and irrelevant details.

The following Report was taken down at the Inquest by Richard Martin, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, one of the Jury, who kindly furnished me with his notes, taken from the mouths of the witnesses, and, as nearly as possible, in their exact words. The greater part of the manuscript appeared in the morning and evening editions of the "Sun" newspaper of the 15th of July—the day after the adjourned inquest. It is now printed

without any abridgment : and to insure accuracy, the proofsheets of the present publication have been revised by Mr. Martin.

Some respected friends have blamed me for noticing in any way the manifestations of the druggist and the "Medical Juror;" whilst others have remarked, that I have said too little in elucidation of the doings and motives of these persons. The Appendix will show what I actually have done, viz., writing three letters with my signature attached.

I have had no direct or indirect participation in the authorship of any editorial articles or anonymous paragraphs which have appeared on the subject. I am in no way responsible for what others have said on the subject.

Two of my three letters appeared in the "Morning Post;" and were simply intended to correct misstatements calculated to injure my professional character, which had been published in that respectable newspaper. My other letter appeared in the "Lancet" of the 7th August: and referred to a communication from Mr. Farmer; which, as it had found a place in the most influential and most generally read medical periodical, I did not think it derogatory to notice.

JOHN ROSE CORMACK.

Essex House, Putney. Sept. 17th, 1847.

*The real is
hidden on*

